

COUNTY OF HYDE

Board of Commissioners

Barry Swindell, Chair
Earl Pugh, Jr., Vice-chair
Ben Simmons
John Fletcher
Dick Tunnell

30 Oyster Creek Road
PO Box 188
SWAN QUARTER, NORTH CAROLINA
252-926-4400
252-926-3701 Fax

Bill Rich
County Manager

Fred Holscher
County Attorney

Lois Stotesberry, CMC, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board



Resolution Opposing the \$150 Senate Proposed Priority Pass

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Ferry Service is an extension of Ocracoke Island's road system funded by the North Carolina State Gasoline Tax; and,

WHEREAS, no alternative form of roadway exists for Ocracoke Island residents; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed FY2015-2016 Senate Budget recommends changing the Hyde County priority system, which will be a tremendous hardship on the 650 resident (free) priority pass holders as well as the 280 vendors who have a free pass; and,

WHEREAS, most all of the 650 local residents who have priority now are older with below average fixed incomes and have neither the money or time to wait or pay to go to the doctor, buy groceries, etc. and then try to get home; and,

WHEREAS, for local residents riding the ferry is not the start or end of a vacation nor an adventure, it is a vital necessity and their only means to and from Ocracoke Island; and,

WHEREAS, the Hyde County Board of Commissioners passed "Resolution By the Commissioners Opposing The Institution of Tolls on Ferry Service Operations To and From Ocracoke Island or The Increase In Existing Tolls" on February 6, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (RPO) which includes Dare, Perquimans, Currituck, Chowan, Camden, Pasquotank, Gates, Bertie, Tyrrell, Washington, Martin, Hertford, Hyde and Northampton Counties unanimously approved "No Additional Fees" for the ferries in FY2015-2016; and,


WHEREAS, the Hyde County Board of Commissioners has joined other coastal counties and many Representatives in Raleigh in an effort to keep North Carolina ferries free from new or additional tolls or fees; and,

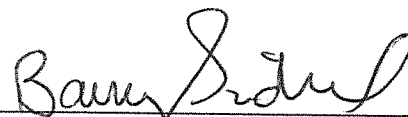
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Hyde County Board of Commissioners has contacted the NC House and Senate Standing Transportation Committee and expressed their opinion on ferry fees, tolls and passes and asked citizens to also express their opposition to the proposed \$150 priority pass to Governor Pat McCrory; Honorable Neal Hunt; Reverend Joel D. M. Ford; Secretary of Transportation Anthony Tata; NCDOT Ferry Division Directors Ed Goodwin and Jed Dixon; Senators Bill Cook, Bill Rabon, Brent Jackson, Dan Soucek, Kathy Harrington, Ralph Hise, Rick Gunn, Warren Daniel and Wesley Meredith; Representatives Becky Carney, Charles Jeter, Chuck McGrady, Dana Bumgardner, Frank Iler, John Torbett, Nelson Dollar, Paul Tine, Phil Shepard, Rayne Brown, Rodney Moore and Wesley Meredith; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hyde County Board of Commissioners strongly opposes the Senate proposed \$150 priority pass or any increase in ferry service fees to and/or from Ocracoke Island and request the \$150 priority pass be denied.

Adopted this the 3rd day of August, 2015, in Hyde County, North Carolina.

ATTEST:


Lois Stotesberry, Clerk to the Board


Barry Swindell, Chairman